

# The Wood Rack

Newsletter of the Long Island Woodworkers' Club

May 1996

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**Next Meeting -- May 1  
Smithtown Barn  
7:30 P.M.**

with an opportunity for questions and answers. This is a program not to be missed.

Roger Schroeder

## Frank Pollaro

Our May speaker is New Jersey craftsman Frank Pollaro, who is among the best and brightest of today's woodworkers. He is often featured in such publications as *Fine Woodworking* and *Woodshop News*, where his skill with veneers is becoming renown. Though he is only in his late twenties, Pollaro tackles such challenges as reproducing Jacques-Emile Ruhlmann furniture. The epitome of French art deco, Ruhlmann's pieces are the combination of fine veneers, exacting design, and master cabinetmaking. Pollaro has shown himself to live up to the challenges posed by Ruhlmann by recreating such masterpieces as chiffoniers with macassar ebony veneers over undulating doors inlaid with ivory pearls and crisscrossed with inlaid holly strips.

Pollaro does design his own furniture, many with prominently matched veneers. One of his most appealing is his sunburst design for round table tops. Pollaro will combine slides with hands-on veneer cutting and matching,

## Secretary's Report

The April meeting was held at the Brush Barn in Smithtown, with 75 members in attendance, including three new members. Bill Hermanek, President, opened the meeting by announcing our sharpening demonstration and "Show and Tell" events for the evening. Bill asked for a nominating committee for our June elections. Three volunteers responded -- Jim Clancy, Les Swan, and Charlie James. Bill also asked for a volunteer to handle a skills and interests survey, similar to the one our past President Jeff Berson initiated a couple of years ago. Joe Pascucci, Treasurer, advised the members that the club has \$3,239.00 on hand in the bank, and our membership now totals 161 members.

Our sharpening committee then took over with their presentation led off by Les Swan explaining the use of bench grinders, pointing out the fact that most grinders run at 3600 rpm, while the optimum speed for sharpening is 1800 rpm. The 1800 rpm grinders are a bit

pricey compared to the others, but they are worth the extra expense.

Graham Kelly prefers oil stones, such as Arkansas stones. One interesting revelation is that these stone are sold both in a "dry" or "wet" form. If the stone is dry it will continue to absorb all the lubricant you can give it. To really load it up, you can bake Vaseline until it liquefies and then insert the stone into the liquid. Graham disclosed his preferences in lubricants, such as motor oil and kerosene mix, "light" mineral oil and -- best of all -- "plain old spit"!!

Tom Petry's preference lies in the realm of water stones. He demonstrated a Delta wet/dry grinder which has two wheels. The smaller wheel is used dry, while the larger wheel is immersed in water. This wheel runs at 60 rpm. The trick to using this, Tom reports, is not to put too much water into the trough and to let a little slurry of paste form on the wheel. All three sharpening experts offered their individual tastes and tips, and passed around different items for the members to examine.

For the "Show and Tell" segment, Alain Tiercy presented a handsome clock he had made out of wenge, finished with tung oil. Paul Cappy brought in his HVLP system for individuals to examine and ask questions. This system was explained in detail by Paul in the March newsletter. Art Rauchnas showed off some expertly made sharpening jigs he had made and offered suggestions to

anyone interested.

The monthly raffle was held, this month offering three prizes. The winners were Bill Hahl -- Gentleman's Dovetail Saw and Scraper; Bob McCarthy -- Pair of Jorgenson Clamps; Paul Voels -- Workshop Book.

A nice evening was enjoyed by all.

Bob Hall

## Board Meeting

On the evening of March 27, 1996, a LIWC Board meeting was held at the home of our President, Bill Hermanek. The following members were in attendance: Roger Schroeder, Howard Whitman, Brian Hayward, Bob Urso, Ken LeGrow, Jim Cosgrove, Charlie Felsen, Graham Kelly, Lance Baker, and Bob Hall.

Bill Hermanek opened the meeting with the first topic, our Summer Program. After some discussion it was decided not to hold meetings in July or August, but to hold our first meeting in September, as usual.

Our June meeting is scheduled for the Club's Annual Barbecue, to be held at the Brush Barn. Food and refreshments will be served at a nominal cost of \$3.00 to members, and a committee will be formed to handle this. More information will follow. Prizes to be awarded for our Annual Competition will be gift certificates of \$100, \$75.00, and \$50.00 for 1st, 2nd, and 3rd places.

Saturday, October 19, 1996, has been set as the date for our Woodworking Exhibition. A committee consisting of Al Schryer, Bob Urso, Graham Kelly and Lance Baker will meet on April 17, 1996, at the home of Bob Urso. Topics to be discussed are publicity, security, transportation, flyers, media coverage, etc. Also to be discussed is a hand-painted sign for use at the exhibition. The committee will also decide on inviting other woodworking groups, such as turners, carvers, etc. Roger Schroeder will also advise the committee of his previous thoughts and groundwork already started on this project.

LIWC Library: Ken LeGrow will soon provide an updated list of books and videos available to members.

Raffles: Charlie Felsen advised that starting with the April meeting, three prizes will be given each month.

Elections: These will be held in June. A nominating committee of three members will be formed.

Our September meeting will kick off our new '96-'97 season with a top-notch speaker to be announced shortly by our Program Committee.

Our Newsletter Editor, Jim Cosgrove, mentioned that he needs articles to be submitted by the membership. These can be on any topic related to woodworking.

Bob Hall

## Router Workshops

There are still a few vacancies for the Router Workshops. Beginners, May 18th and Intermediate, June 15. \$20.00 per workshop (9:00 AM to 1:00 PM) Contact Joe Pascucci, 385-1877 or Brian Hayward, 549-9096.

## Market Place

Wanted. Any antique woodworking tools or machinery. Bill Hermanek, 360-1216.

Dovetail jig for sale. Never used. \$40.00. Contact Howard Whitman, 586-5815.

Wanted. Back issues of *Fine Woodworking* magazine, issues 10-16. Call Steve Abatzidis, 421-0657.

Planer for Sale. Older 12" Craftsman. Good shape. Best Offer. Wards Power Craft Table Saw. Best Offer. Call Charlie Felsen. 499-2087.

Band Saw for Sale. 10", 3 wheel Craftsman with stand. Call Bob Hall, 265-5345.

Porter Cable Plate Joiner, Model 555. Used, but still in good shape. Includes metal case. I'll throw in 200 #20 biscuits. Price \$100.00. Contact Jim Cosgrove, 781-4304.

Shopsmith Mark 5 System for Sale. Includes every available accessory! A lot of extras! Worth \$5000.00, asking

\$3500.00. Call Steve Paulo, 796-6076.  
Beeper Number, 335-7965.

Original Incra Jig for Sale. Includes  
homemade base and fence, jig  
handbook and templates. \$30.00. Call  
Brian Hayward, 549-9096.

Jeanette Palma of Eaton's Neck is  
interested in selling some vintage tools  
from her basement, probably a table  
saw, a drill press, and a lathe. If  
interested call 757-3197.

### **DeWALT Research Project**

The DeWALT Industrial Tool  
Company is interested in your  
experience and opinions regarding  
benchtop and stationary sanding  
machines. They are in need of  
woodworkers who currently own a  
sanding machine as well as those who  
do not own one to share their  
experience and opinions about these  
tools. This research will not focus on  
portable or hand-held sanders.

Interested members would attend a one  
and one-half to two hour session  
hosted at a local hotel where  
representatives of DeWALT would lead  
them in a conversation about sanding  
machines. Tentative dates for this  
research are Thursday, May 2nd or  
Friday, May 3rd. Sessions would run  
from approximately 6:30 PM to 8:30  
PM.

A representative of DeWALT will be  
attending the May 1st LIWC meeting to  
recruit members interested in  
participating. DeWALT will be  
raffling off a DW 625 3hp Plunge  
Router to the membership at the  
meeting and will raffle off a DW 705  
12" Miter Saw and a DW 625 3hp  
Plunge Router to members who  
participate in the research groups.

If you are interested or have any  
questions regarding this research,  
please contact DeWALT representative  
Todd Huston at (410) 239-5214.

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**First Class Mail**